

## Message Text

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64

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ADP-00 AF-10 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01

USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01 SS-14 OMB-01 INRE-00

NSCE-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 RSR-01 /135 W  
----- 044921

O R 132335 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO RUEHCOSECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3474

INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

USMISSION USUN

Q O N F I D E N T I A L SAN JOSE 0880

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UNSC PNTCS

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER FACIO AND SC MEETING IN PANAMA

1. FOREIGN MINISTER FACIO LEAVES TOMORROW FOR PANAMA UNSC MEETING. HE SAYS THAT HE WILL STAY ONLY TWO DAYS AND WILL RETURN TO COSTA RICA MARCH 17 WHEREUPON HE WILL BEGIN HIS EUROPEAN VACATION.

2. FOR ALL OF HIS BASIC SYMPATHY FOR PANAMA, I HAVE THE DISTINCT IMPRESSION THAT HE IS UNHAPPY ABOUT THE SC MEETING, AND UNHAPPIER STILL THAT HE HAD TO GO. I DO NOT THINK HE IS DISPOSED TO SUPPORT ANY CONFRONTATION TACTIC THAT TRIES TO PUT THE US ON THE SPOT. EVEN ON THE CANAL SITUATION, HE HAS STATED TO US THAT HE DOES NOT SUPPORT ITS BEING DISCUSSED IN THE SC FORUM. HE TOLD ME THAT HE HAD CAREFULLY STUDIED THE BACKGROUND INFORMATION I GAVE HIM( DEPCIRTEL 28843) AND THOUGHT THE US WAS REMARKABLY

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FORTHCOMING. HE SAID HE WOULD TAKE THE POSITION THAT THE CANAL QUESTION IS PROPERLY THE SUBJECT OF ONGOING BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS AND SHOULD BE HANDLED THERE; THAT EVEN IF A LATER DISPUTE ARISES IT BELONGS IN THE OAS NOT THE UN.

3. FACIO IS ALSO A VERY STRONG DEFENDER OF THE OAS SYSTEM AND SAYS THAT HE WILL DEFEND THE PRIMACY OF THE OAS RE MATTERS OF HEMISPHERIC CONCERN. WHEN I RAISED WITH HIM OUR CONCERN THAT THE MEETING NOT BE A VEHICLE FOR INJECTING EXTRA- CONTINENTAL POWERS INTO HEMISPHERIC QUESTIONS ( DEPCIRTEL 44820) HE SAID HE AGREED HEARTILY. HE WENT SO FAR AS TO SAY THAT IF HE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK HE WAS GOING TO MAKE THIS POINT CLEARLY, EVEN THOUGH " THE PANAMANIAN WILL NOT LIKE IT".

4. FACIO ALSO TOLD ME THAT HE AND PRESIDENT FIGUERES RECEIVED A PHONE CALL FROM PUERTO RICAN GOVERNOR HERNANDEZ COLON ASKING THAT FACIO DEFEND PUERTO RICAN COMMONWEALTH STATUS SHOULD CUBAN FOREIGN MINISTER ROA RAISE THE QUESTION OF PUERTO RICO AND COLONIALISM, WHICH HERNANDEZ CLEARLY EXPECTS ROA TO DO. THEY PROMISED HIM THEY WOULD. ( BOTH FIGUERES AND FACIO ARE ON VERY FRIENDLY TERMS WITH HERNANDEZ AND OF COURSE MUNOZ MARIN.)

5. FACIO HAS ALWAYS PRIDED HIMSELF ON HIS CLOSE COOPERATION WITH THE US IN UN MATTERS, AND HIS RECORD BEARS HIM OUT. HE IS NOW, I THINK, SOMEWHAT CHAGRINED AT BEING IN THE POSITION OF PUBLICLY DENYING HE WOULD GO TO PANAMA ONLY TO FLOP AT THE LAST MINUTE, AND THIS MAY DISPOSE HIM EVEN MORE TO COOPERATION WITH OUR DELEGATION. HE SPEAKS WARMLY OF AMBASSADOR BENNETT WHOM HE REMEMBERS FROM THE LATTER' S COSTA RICAN DESK DAYS IN 1948. HE SAYS HE WOULD LIKE VERY MUCH TO  
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MEET AMBASSADOR SCALI. IN SHORT, I RECOMMEND

STRONGLY THAT OUR DELEGATION MAKE A SPECIAL  
EFFORT TO CONTACT HIM AND THAT AMBASSADOR  
SCALI TALK TO HIM. HE IS, I THINK, DISPOSED  
TO BE HELPFUL, AND MAY PROVE TO BE THE MOST  
HELPFUL ( FROM OUR POINT OF VIEW) FOREIGN  
MINISTER THERE. AT LEAST WE SHOULD GIVE  
HIM THE CHANCE TO PROVE SO.  
VAKY

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:**  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** garlanwa  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> jms 971119  
**Subject:** FOREIGN MINISTER FACIO AND SC MEETING IN PANAMA  
**TAGS:** PFOR, UNSC  
**To:** IO  
PANAMA  
SECSTATE WASHDC  
USUN  
**Type:** TE  
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